

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /093 W

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R 110348Z MAY 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1774

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0777

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR CH

SUBJECT: AMERICAN ATROCITY EXHIBIT IN PEKING

1. AUSTRALIAN DCM ROSS COTTRILL INFORMED US MAY 10 THAT SEVERAL AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGE STUDENTS, WHILE VISITING THE TEMPLE OF THE MOON PARK (YUEH TAN) IN WEST PEKING CAME ACROSS A PHOTO EXHIBIT OF ALLEGED MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS CARRIED OUT ON CHINESE CHILDREN AT THE FORMER ROCKEFELLER SPONSORED PEKING MEDICAL UNION COLLEGE, NOW CAPITOL HOSPITAL. THE EXHIBIT WAS ARRANGED IN A SQUARE WITH ALL OF THE PHOTOS FACING INWARD, AND WHEN THE STUDENTS TRIED TO ENTER THEY WERE REFUSED. THEY COULD SEE ENOUGH THROUGH THE GAPS HOWEVER, TO DETERMINE THE CONTENT OF THE EXHIBIT. "LONDON TIMES" CORRESPONDENT DAVID BONAVIA HEARD ABOUT THE STORY AND ALSO VISITED THE PARK. HE TOO WAS REFUSED ENTRY, BUT HE VERIFIED THE STUDENTS' OBSERVATIONS. COTTRILL SAID HE WENT TO THE PARK LAST WEEK END AND THE EXHIBIT HAD BEEN REMOVED.

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2. COMMENT: CAMPAIGN TO PORTRAY ALLEGED AMERICAN AND JAPANESE ATROCITIES APPEARS TO HAVE SPREAD FROM PROVINCES TO THE CAPITAL. WE DO NOT THINK THAT RAISING THIS MATTER DIRECTLY WITH THE CHINESE AT THIS STAGE WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE. NEVERTHELESS, WE WONDER IF A COMPLETE LACK OF RESPONSE TO THESE ACCUSATION -- WHICH HAVE ALSO APPEARED IN NCNA -- IS APPROPRIATE. DEPARTMENT MIGHT CONSIDER PROVIDING A CLEARLY IDENTIFIABLE BACKGROUNDER FOR SOME REPUTABLE JOURNALIST IN WASHINGTON EXPRESSING OUR PUZZLEMENT AND DISPLEASURE AT THIS WIERD BEHAVIOR REMINISCENT OF SOME OF THE WORST ASPECTS OF THE LATE CHING DYNASTY.
BRUCE

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